CLAIMS

1. A functional chitosan derivative characterized by being formed by incorporating a carbohydrate having reducing terminals and/or a photo-reactive functional group and/or an amphipathic group and/or a glycosaminoglycan to at least a portion of the 2-position amino groups in the glucosamin units constituting an at least partially deacetylated chitin/chitosan, and/or incorporating an amphipathic group into at least a portion of the hydroxyl groups at the 3-position and/or 6-position in the glucosamin units or acetylglucosamin units constituting said chitin/chitosan.

2. A functional chitosan derivative as recited in claim 1, characterized in that the degree of deacetylation of the chitin/chitosan is at least 40%.

3. A functional chitosan derivative as recited in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the carbohydrate having reducing terminals is a carbohydrate having 20 or less constituent carbohydrate units.

4. A functional chitosan derivative as recited in claim 3, characterized in that the carbohydrate having reducing terminals is a neutral disaccharide.

5. A functional chitosan derivative as recited in any one of claims 1-4, characterized in that the degree of substitution of carbohydrates having reducing terminals is 0.1-80%.

6. A functional chitosan derivative as recited in any one of claims 1-5, characterized in that the photo-reactive functional group is chosen from among cabonylazide groups, sulfonylazide groups and aromatic azide groups.

7. A functional chitosan derivative as recited in any one of claims 1-6, characterized in that the degree of substitution of photo-reactive functional groups is 0.1-80%.

8. A functional chitosan derivative as recited in any one of claims 1-7, characterized

in that the amphipathic group is a non-ionic group.

9. A functional chitosan derivative as recited in claim 8, characterized in that the amphipathic group is a polyoxyalkylene alkyl ether group.

10. A functional chitosan derivative as recited in any one of claims 1-9, characterized in that the degree of substitution of amphipathic groups is 5-70%.

11. A functional chitosan derivative as recited in any one of claims 1-10, characterized in that the glycosaminoglycan is a heparin derivative.

12. A health-care material containing a functional chitosan derivative as recited in any one of claims 1-11.